Economic Update

July 2008

We're on the web

www.stjohns.ca

Business Briefs

Starting Friday July 4th and continuing every Friday until August 29th, the City of St. John's will be producing free outdoor lunch-time concerts. The concert series provides an eclectic mix of styles that represents the musical community of the city. The series will be held at Harbourside Park and starts at 12:30 pm.

***

The Government of Canada recently announced the creation of an Atlantic Canada Energy (ACE) office, to open in St. John's this September. ACE would co-locate with existing federal resources and draw on the collaborative efforts from both ACOA and NRCan to support energy-related issues in the region.

***

The Newfoundland & Labrador Organization of Women Entrepreneurs (NLOWE) has recently announced a toll-free telephone number: 1.888.NLOWE.11. The new number will be the central destination for all business-related inquiries affecting and impacting women in business. NLOWE has also announced a Mentoring Program (peer mentoring groups, one-on-one mentoring and mentor advisory forum) to enhance NLOWE's service delivery by providing aspiring and existing women entrepreneurs with opportunities for continued support, guidance and advice.

***

The Youth Ventures program helps students create their own summer employment. The program provides participants with business counseling, training, and mentoring as they start their own small businesses. Youth Ventures is available to students aged 12 to 29. St. John's City Council has waived business start-up fees for participants in the program. For further info see: www.youthventuresnl.com/

***

According to the latest 2006 census release, of the 12.4 million households in Canada, more than 8.5 million, over two-thirds (68.4%) owned their home, the highest rate since 1971. Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest home ownership rate in the country, 78.7%. Households in Quebec had the lowest provincial rate at 60.1%.

City Building Permits (June 30, 2008)

Type	2007	2008
Commercial	$27,337,921	$17,817,525
Industrial	1,524,967	1,755,000
Institutional	12,333,435	29,421,558
Residential	53,890,845	51,515,603
Repairs	1,309,071	1,496,768
Total	**$96,396,239**	**$102,006,454**

Economic Indicators

- **The New Housing Price Index for St. John's Metro increased by 16.3% to 154.1 in April 2008**
- **The Consumer Price Index for St. John's Metro increased by 2.8% to 114.0 in May 2008**

Labour Force Characteristics, St. John's Metro, *(three-month moving average unadjusted)*

	May 08	Chg.
Labour Force	104,200	4.5%
Unemployment Rate	9.0%	1.4pt
Employment Rate	61.6%	1.0pt
Participation Rate	67.8%	2.2pt

2008-05746/

Business Approvals

Self-storage mall, Torbay Rd.

Hickman Motors, 266 Torbay Rd.

Heritage Islands Inc., 42 Power's Crt.

African Market, 141 Torbay Rd.

Hair salon, 176 Freshwater Rd.

Colassal Pizza, 362 Water St.

Computer repair service, 140 Freshwater Rd.

54686 NL Inc., 120 Lemarchant Rd.

Recording studio, 177 Water St.

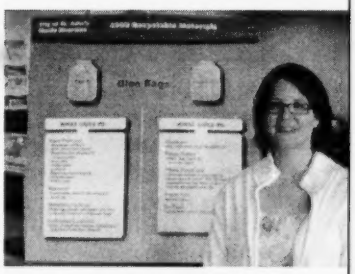
Davanna's Jewellery Boutique, Avalon Mall

New Home Based Business

Jolly Rovin' Tours, 73 Cabot St.

City Initiatives

Waste Diversion Information Sessions



The City of St. John's is set to introduce a new Waste Diversion Program beginning with recyclables (paper fibers & containers) mid 2009 and organics (compost) mid-2010. The program requires source separation of waste and therefore a change in the way households and businesses collect and dispose of garbage. There will be differential tipping fees implemented for disposal at Robin Hood Bay. Economically speaking it will be beneficial for a business to separate their garbage as it will cost less to dispose of recyclables and organics than it will for garbage. Businesses that wish to learn more about the upcoming Waste Diversion Program are invited to attend one of the following information sessions being held in the EB Foran Room, 4th floor City Hall:

Mon. July 21: 10-11am	Mon. Aug. 18: 12-1pm	Tues. Sept. 9: 2-3pm
Tues. July 22: 12-1pm	Wed. Aug. 20: 2-3pm	Wed. Sept. 10: 10-11am
Fri. July 25: 2-3pm	Fri. Aug. 22: 10-11am	Thurs. Sept. 11: 12-1pm

Pre-register by calling the Waste Diversion Communications Supervisor at 576-4510.

Upcoming Events

Sound Symposium	Jul 3 – Jul 13	www.soundsymposium.com/
Summer Lunchtime Concert Series – Harbourside Park (Fridays)	Jul 4 – Aug 29	www.stjohns.ca
Master of Influence Marketing and Sales Seminar	Jul 16	www.personal-performance.org
St. John's Jazz Festival	Jul 16 – Jul 20	www.stjohnsjazzfestival.com
Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors	Jul 20 – Jul 23	www.ciphi.ca/events.htm
YMCA-YWCA of Northeast Avalon– *Start Your Own Business Information Session*	Jul 21	Tel: (709) 754-2982 ext. 21
ISO 9001:2000 Overview Workshop	Jul 22	www.qualitymatters.net
Pippy Park Summerfest & Summerdance	Jul 26 – 27	www.pippypark.com
Assoc. of Visual Language Interpreters of Canada	Jul 29 – Aug 2	www.avlic.ca
St. John's Time	Jul 31 – Aug 10	www.stjohnstime.ca
NL Federation of Agriculture	Aug 3 – Aug 6	www.nlfa.ca
North Atlantic Fiddle Convention	Aug 3 – 8	www.mun.ca/nafco2008/about/

ST. JOHN'S
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM & CULTURE
348 Water Street
City of St. John's, P.O. Box 908
St. John's, NL A1C 5M2
709-576-8107 business@stjohns.ca